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SECOND ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE TRUSTEES

OF THE

TEMPORARY ASYLUM FOR THE CHRONIC INSANE

AT

WORCESTER,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1879.

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BOSTON:

Rand, Avery, & Co., Printers to the Commonwealth,

117 FRANKLIN STREET.

1880.



## OFFICERS OF THE ASYLUM.

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### *TRUSTEES.*

GEN. WILLIAM S. LINCOLN . . . . .	WORCESTER.
THOMAS H. GAGE, M.D. . . . .	WORCESTER.
COL. JOHN D. WASHBURN . . . . .	WORCESTER.
PROF. JAMES B. THAYER . . . . .	CAMBRIDGE.
ROBERT W. HOOPER, M.D. . . . .	BOSTON.

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### *RESIDENT OFFICERS.*

HOSEA M. QUINBY, M.D. . . . .	SUPERINTENDENT.
WILLIAM H. RAYMENTON, M.D. . . . .	ASSISTANT PHYSICIAN.
CHARLES H. SAFFORD . . . . .	STEWARD.
SOPHIA N. GRAVES . . . . .	MATRON.
CLARENCE R. MACOMBER . . . . .	CLERK.

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WILLIAM SHERMAN . . . . .	ENGINEER.
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### *TREASURER.*

ALBERT WOOD . . . . .	WORCESTER.
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## Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT.

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*To his Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council.*

THE Trustees of the Worcester Lunatic Hospital, acting as Trustees of the Temporary Asylum for the Chronic Insane, respectfully submit their Second Annual Report; and refer for additional details to the annexed reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer.

#### MOVEMENT OF POPULATION.

At the close of the year ending Sept. 30, 1878, there were remaining in the Asylum 375 patients; and there have been received during the year 47: so that a total number of 422 have been under treatment. Of these, 33 have died; one has eloped; seventeen have been discharged to the care of overseers of the poor, or to friends; and 371 remain. The daily average number has been a small fraction above 367.

The actual working of the law under which the Asylum for the *Chronic* Insane came into existence, has resulted, whether the Legislature so intended or not, in peopling this institution almost entirely with the *incurable* insane. This accounts for the meagre report of *recoveries* as compared with other institutions in the State devoted to the care and treatment of this unfortunate class. Our humbler efforts here are directed to the relief and mitigation of an affliction which will only, in most cases, be completely removed when the sufferers cease to exist.

#### COST OF MAINTENANCE.

The average weekly cost of supporting patients during the year has been \$2.86. This might perhaps be slightly reduced, should present cost of living continue, if the number of patients were kept up to the full capacity of the Asylum, which is 400.

#### REPAIRS.

Allusion was made in our last report to the work of repairs on the buildings and grounds.

It was stated that these had been pushed forward as rapidly as possible, but were not yet completed. The expense of repairs up to that time, which had been paid out of the accumulated funds of the Worcester Lunatic Hospital, for reasons then stated, was given as \$8,706.86. Since that report was made, the Hospital has paid bills, which had then been incurred but remained unpaid, to the amount of \$427.89; making a total of expenditure for repairs at the old building, by the Hospital, of \$9,134.75.

The belief was expressed that what remained to be done could be paid for out of the earnings of the institution. Accordingly, as the work has progressed, it has been paid for in that manner, and appears in the Treasurer's report under the head of repairs, amounting to \$4,179.57. There is included in this item, renewal of steam-heating apparatus in the centre of the house, re-building of fences, building of bins for storage of coal, paving gutters under the eaves, complete renovation of the interior-finish of one of the wards in the south wing, &c. The work thus begun we hope to be able to continue until all the wards in the "old wings" are renovated.

#### GARDEN.

The success which has attended the operations in the vegetable garden during the year, certainly appears to justify the action of the Trustees in allowing the use for that purpose of the lot east of Mulberry Street. This lot, containing about four acres, has been entirely cultivated by the labor of the patients, under the direction of a gardener, and has furnished the table with all vegetables used, except potatoes.

Viewed in the light of economy, this is by no means a trifling matter; but when we consider how great the benefit of such occupation has been to the patients themselves, it shows to double advantage. We think the lot should remain intact, and be used for its present purpose as long as a manifest good results from such application.

#### CHANGE IN OFFICIAL STAFF.

Early in February, 1879, Dr. John G. Park, Superintendent or the Asylum, left it to take the superintendency of the Worcester Lunatic Hospital. On the 24th of the same month the Trustees made choice of Dr. H. M. Quinby, who had been for many years an assistant physician at the Hospital, to fill the vacancy occasioned by Dr. Park's departure. Dr. Marston, who had been Assistant Physician, having also left to take Dr. Quinby's place in the staff of the Hospital, choice was made of Dr. W. H. Raymenton to be Assistant Physician at the Asylum.

No other changes have occurred; and we take particular pleasure in adding, that all the affairs of the institution have been conducted harmoniously and with apparently mutual confidence and respect on the part of Trustees and Officers.

THOMAS H. GAGE.  
JOHN D. WASHBURN.  
JAMES B. THAYER.  
R. W. HOOPER.

## VALUE OF STOCK AND SUPPLIES

SEPT. 30, 1879.

Live stock . . . . .	\$250 00
Carriage and agricultural implements . . . . .	562 30
Machinery and mechanical fixtures . . . . .	2,800 00
Beds and bedding in inmates' department . . . . .	8,296 00
Other furniture in inmates' department . . . . .	1,764 48
Personal property of State in Superintendent's department .	8,515 32
Ready-made clothing . . . . .	911 05
Dry-goods . . . . .	1,075 77
Provisions and groceries . . . . .	2,195 73
Drugs and medicines . . . . .	193 81
Fuel . . . . .	1,973 49
Library . . . . .	100 00
	<hr/>
	\$28,637 95

## TREASURER'S REPORT.

*To the Trustees of the Asylum for the Chronic Insane.*

GENTLEMEN,—I herewith submit my Second Annual Report on the finances of the Asylum for the Chronic Insane, for the year ending Sept. 30, 1879:—

## RECEIPTS.

Cash on hand Sept. 30, 1878:

belonging to Asylum . . . . .	\$2,329 55
deposits of inmates . . . . .	364 19
	————— \$2,693 74

Amount received:

From the Commonwealth for support of patients . . . . .	\$19,146 51
cities and towns for support of patients . . . . .	50,487 34
	————— \$69,633 85
other sources . . . . .	611 89
patients (on deposit) . . . . .	81 87
	————— \$73,021 35

The expenditures for the year have been as follows:—

Salaries and wages . . . . .	\$20,205 56
Extra labor (ordinary) . . . . .	73 73
	————— \$20,279 29
Provisions and supplies, viz.: . . . . .	
Meats of all kinds . . . . .	\$3,197 96
Fish of all kinds . . . . .	559 82
Fruit and vegetables . . . . .	1,491 20
Flour, 532 barrels, at \$5.36 . . . . .	2,853 60
Grain and meal for table . . . . .	92 22
Grain, meal, and hay for stock . . . . .	212 35
Tea and coffee . . . . .	867 85
Sugar and molasses . . . . .	1,506 02
Milk, butter, and cheese . . . . .	5,208 59
Salt and other groceries . . . . .	446 88
All other provisions . . . . .	2,073 65
	————— \$18,510 14
Amount carried forward . . . . .	————— \$38,789 43

<i>Amount brought forward . . . . .</i>	<i>\$38,789 43</i>
Clothing and material . . . . .	3,519 01
Fuel and light . . . . .	6,238 05
Medicine and medical supplies . . . . .	282 93
Furniture, beds, and bedding . . . . .	2,126 92
Transportation and travelling . . . . .	226 95
Repairs . . . . .	4,179 57
Appraisers . . . . .	75 00
All other current expenses . . . . .	1,933 66
	<i>\$18,582 09</i>
Total current expenses . . . . .	<i>\$57,371 52</i>
Worcester Lunatic Hospital for Supplies left in building Oct. 23, 1877 . . . . .	2,825. 66
Refunded inmates from deposits . . . . .	51 23
	<i>2,876 89</i>
Total amount expended . . . . .	<i>60,248 41</i>
Cash on hand Sept. 30, 1879 . . . . .	<i>12,772 94</i>
	<i>\$73,021 35</i>

**RESOURCES.**

Cash on hand . . . . .	<i>\$12,772 94</i>
Due from the Commonwealth . . . . .	4,583 86
cities and towns . . . . .	10,658 41
other sources . . . . .	57 72
	<i>\$28,072 93</i>

**LIABILITIES.**

Due for supplies and expenses . . . . .	3,823 97
salaries and wages . . . . .	1,633 42
inmates (cash on deposit) . . . . .	394 83
	5,852 22
Total surplus . . . . .	<i>\$22,220 71</i>

Respectfully submitted.

ALBERT WOOD, *Treasurer.*

ASYLUM FOR THE CHRONIC INSANE, Oct. 1, 1879.

WORCESTER, MASS., Oct. 14, 1879.

The undersigned has examined the account of the Treasurer of the Asylum for the Chronic Insane, and has inspected all the vouchers of expenditures from Oct. 1, 1878, to Sept. 30, 1879, inclusive.

He finds all the items properly vouched, every voucher being endorsed with the approval of the Superintendent, and with that of the Auditor.

THOMAS H. GAGE, *Auditor of Accounts.*

## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

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*To the Trustees of the Asylum for the Chronic Insane.*

GENTLEMEN,—I herewith present the Second Annual Report of the Superintendent of this institution.

TABLE No. 1.

*Movement of Population.*

Date.		Male.	Female.	Total.
<b>1878.</b>				
Sept. 30.	Remaining in the Asylum . . . . .	173	202	375
Oct. 10.	Transferred from State Almshouse, Tewksbury . . . . .	-	2	2
22.	Transferred from State Almshouse, Tewksbury . . . . .	15	-	15
<b>1879.</b>				
Feb. 5.	Transferred from State Almshouse; Tewksbury . . . . .	2	2	4
Mar. 12.	Transferred from State Almshouse, Tewksbury . . . . .	-	1	1
Aug. 19.	Transferred from Danvers Hospital for Insane . . . . .	13	12	25
	Total . . . . .	203	219	422

This number represents 421 persons, one female having been discharged to the care of the Overseers of the Poor, committed to the Danvers Hospital, and again transferred to this Asylum.

TABLE No. 2.  
*Form of Disease of Patients admitted.*

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Chronic mania . . . . .	8	11	19
Dementia . . . . .	11	3	14
Paresis . . . . .	1	-	1
Epilepsy . . . . .	7	2	9
Imbecility . . . . .	2	-	2
Recurrent mania . . . . .	-	1	1
Paralytic with maniacal attacks . . .	1	-	1
Total . . . . .	30	17	47

TABLE No. 3.  
*Number of Patients Discharged and their Condition at time of Discharge.*

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Improved . . . . .	4	3	7
Not improved . . . . .	2	9	11
Died . . . . .	22	11	33
Total . . . . .	28	23	51
Remaining Sept. 30, 1879 . . .	175	196	371

Of the number discharged, 7 were removed by friends, 6 by the Overseers of the Poor, 4 by the Board of State Charities, and 1 eloped.

TABLE No. 4.

*Cause of Death.*

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Phthisis . . . . .	2	6	8	
Exhaustion of chronic mental disease . . . . .	3	2	5	
Epilepsy . . . . .	3	3	6	
Pneumonia . . . . .	3	—	3	
Paresis . . . . .	8	—	8	
Intestinal obstruction . . . . .	1	—	1	
Rupture of the intestines . . . . .	1	—	1	
Congestive apoplexy . . . . .	1	—	1	
Total . . . . .	22	11	33	

During the year the house has been free from accidents of a fatal or serious character, and from any unusual sickness, notwithstanding the fact that a large proportion of the inmates are so far enfeebled as to render their tenure of life extremely precarious. Completely wrecked in mind and body, they succumb rapidly to slight disturbing influences.

TABLE No. 5.  
*Showing Nativity of Patients Admitted.*

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Maine . . . . .	—	1	1	1
Vermont . . . . .	2	—	2	
Massachusetts . . . . .	9	4	13	
Rhode Island . . . . .	1	—	1	
Michigan . . . . .	1	—	1	
Total Americans . . . . .	13	5	18	
Ireland . . . . .	14	12	26	
England . . . . .	1	—	1	
Nova Scotia . . . . .	1	—	1	
Spain . . . . .	1	—	1	
Total foreigners . . . . .	17	12	29	
Total persons . . . . .	30	17	47	

TABLE No. 6.  
*Showing Residence of Patients Admitted.*

COUNTY.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Middlesex . . . . . . .	7	2	9
Suffolk . . . . . . .	6	11	17
Unknown . . . . . . .	17	4	21
Total . . . . . . .	30	17	47

TABLE No. 7.  
*Showing the Ages of Patients Admitted, Discharged, and Died during the Year.*

AGES.	ADMITTED.			DISCHARGED.			DIED.		
	Ma.	Fe.	Tot.	Ma.	Fe.	Tot.	Ma.	Fe.	Tot.
From 15 to 20 . . . . .	4	2	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 to 25 . . . . .	4	2	6	3	1	4	-	-	-
25 to 30 . . . . .	2	2	4	-	1	1	1	1	2
30 to 35 . . . . .	3	-	3	-	1	1	6	4	10
35 to 40 . . . . .	7	5	12	-	2	2	1	1	2
40 to 50 . . . . .	6	3	9	-	2	2	2	2	4
50 to 60 . . . . .	1	2	3	2	2	4	6	1	7
60 to 70 . . . . .	1	-	1	-	1	1	-	1	1
70 to 80 . . . . .	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	1	4
80 to 90 . . . . .	2	1	3	-	-	-	1	-	1
Unknown . . . . .	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	-	2
Total . . . . .	30	17	47	6	12	18	22	11	33

TABLE No. 8.

*Showing by whom the Patients have been supported during the Year.*

	Male.	Female.	Total.		Male.	Female.	Total.
State . . .	59	66	125	<i>Brought forward</i> .	168	198	366
Boston . . .	66	89	155	Newton . . .	1	1	2
Acton . . .	1	-	1	Newburyport . . .	-	2	2
Brookfield . . .	1	3	4	Needham . . .	3	-	3
Beverly . . .	2	1	3	Natick . . .	-	1	1
Brookline . . .	-	1	1	Northampton . . .	1	-	1
Bradford . . .	-	1	1	Plymouth . . .	1	-	1
Blackstone . . .	1	-	1	Pembroke . . .	1	-	1
Concord . . .	1	-	1	Peabody . . .	1	-	1
Chelsea . . .	9	5	14	Pittsfield . . .	-	1	1
Cambridge . . .	6	8	14	Quincy . . .	1	-	1
Clinton . . .	-	1	1	Randolph . . .	1	-	1
Cohasset . . .	-	1	1	Stoneham . . .	2	1	3
Chelmsford . . .	1	-	1	Sutton . . .	1	-	1
Douglas . . .	1	-	1	Swampscott . . .	1	-	1
Dighton . . .	-	1	1	Scituate . . .	-	1	1
Edgartown . . .	1	-	1	Salem . . .	2	3	5
Essex . . .	1	-	1	Southampton . . .	-	1	1
Franklin . . .	2	1	3	Shrewsbury . . .	-	1	1
Fitchburg . . .	-	2	2	Sherburne . . .	-	1	1
Fall River . . .	1	-	1	Southbridge . . .	-	1	1
Holliston . . .	1	-	1	Sharon . . .	1	-	1
Haverhill . . .	-	2	2	Somerville . . .	1	-	1
Lawrence . . .	1	1	2	Templeton . . .	-	1	1
Lynn . . .	2	3	5	Tewksbury . . .	-	1	1
Lowell . . .	1	1	2	Uxbridge . . .	1	-	2
Leicester . . .	1	-	1	Westborough . . .	1	-	1
Lincoln . . .	-	1	1	Woburn . . .	-	1	1
Marblehead . . .	1	2	3	Warren . . .	1	-	1
Malden . . .	2	-	2	Waltham . . .	1	-	1
Medfield . . .	-	2	2	Wakefield . . .	3	-	3
Manchester . . .	1	1	2	Wilmington . . .	-	1	1
Melrose . . .	-	2	2	Westford . . .	2	-	2
Medway . . .	-	1	1	Worcester . . .	1	-	2
Millbury . . .	1	1	2	Webster . . .	3	-	3
Medford . . .	2	1	3	Walpole . . .	1	-	1
Milford . . .	2	-	2	Weymouth . . .	2	-	2
<i>Carried forward</i> .			168	198	366		
						Total . . .	203 218 421

TABLE NO. 9.

*Showing Daily Average Number of Patients for each Month for the Year; the Largest and the Smallest Number of Patients in the Asylum at any Time.*

DAILY AVERAGE.						Male.	Female.	Total.
<b>1878.</b>								
October . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	172.32	200.68	373
November . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	175.93	196.90	372.83
December . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	182.58	196	378.58
<b>1879.</b>								
January . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	175.94	195.19	371.13
February . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	173.97	196.06	370.03
March . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	172.26	195.12	367.38
April . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	169.30	193	362.30
May . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	168	191.35	359.35
June . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	168	191	359
July . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	166.26	190.77	357.03
August . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	170.45	194.20	364.65
September . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	176.37	197.53	373.90
Total daily average for the year ending Sept. 30, 1879 . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	367.41
Largest number in the Asylum at any time . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	186	197	383
Smallest number in the Asylum at any time . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	165	189	354

TABLE No. 10.

*Showing Number of Articles made by the Female Patients.*

Articles.	Number.	Articles.	Number.
Aprons . . .	72	Brought forward . . .	1,128
Apron ticking . . .	16	Napkins . . .	41
Camisoles . . .	9	Neck-handkerchiefs . . .	2
Curtains . . .	148	Pillows (hair) . . .	336
Chemise . . .	240	Pillow-slips . . .	394
Clothes-bags . . .	24	Pillow-ticks . . .	14
Coffee-bags . . .	4	Quilts . . .	112
Drawers (pairs)	106	Sheets . . .	402
Dresses . . .	322	Sacks . . .	22
Hats trimmed . . .	29	Skirts . . .	143
Ironing-sheets . . .	4	Shirts . . .	10
Lambrequins . . .	4	Suspenders . . .	78
Mittens (pairs)	12	Towels . . .	743
Mattresses . . .	99	Table-cloths . . .	28
Mattress-ticks . . .	5	Under-waists . . .	16
Night-dresses . . .	34	Total number . . .	3,469
Carried forward . . .	1,128		

TABLE No. 11.

*Products of the Garden.*

Beets . . .	220 bushels.	Cabbages . . .	2,000 heads.
Parsnips . . .	252 bushels.	Turnips . . .	30 bushels.
Celery . . .	2,000 heads.	Squashes . . .	2 tons.
Cucumbers . . .	25 bushels.	Sweet corn . . .	150 bushels.
Tomatoes . . .	120 bushels.	Onions . . .	50 bushels.
Lettuce . . .	600 heads.	Beans . . .	40 bushels.
Radishes . . .	50 dozen.	Egg plant . . .	3 dozen.
Peppers . . .	1 peck.		

## STATEMENT

SHOWING NET COST OF MAINTENANCE TO SEPT. 30, 1879.

(Fifty-two weeks.)

Flour, 503 barrels . . . . .	\$2,714 75
Flour (Graham), 15 barrels . . . . .	65 25
Corn and rye meal, 3,780 pounds . . . . .	46 61
Oatmeal, 1,294 pounds . . . . .	42 37
Hominy, 799 pounds . . . . .	19 21
Cracked wheat, 488 pounds . . . . .	17 74
Crackers, 42 barrels . . . . .	116 50
Fresh beef, 10,018 pounds . . . . .	1,123 68
Corned beef, 21,950 pounds . . . . .	1,097 50
Soup beef, 5,477 pounds . . . . .	160 91
Lamb and mutton, 1,905 pounds . . . . .	207 32
Poultry, 1,010 pounds . . . . .	172 43
Fresh pork, 3,668 pounds . . . . .	244 12
Salt pork, 4 barrels . . . . .	50 50
Sausage, 1,128 pounds . . . . .	82 39
Hams, 446 pounds . . . . .	40 07
Fish (fresh), 13,397 pounds . . . . .	387 47
Fish (salt), 2,960 pounds . . . . .	154 43
Vegetables . . . . .	98 29
Potatoes, 1,147 bushels . . . . .	917 94
Potatoes (sweet), 80 bushels . . . . .	59 05
Beans, 95½ bushels . . . . .	143 57
Rice, 620 pounds . . . . .	46 12
Salt, 11¼ barrels . . . . .	27 69
Spices . . . . .	36 99
Vinegar . . . . .	56 26
Sugar, 16,997 pounds . . . . .	1,230 18
Molasses, 567 gallons . . . . .	239 25
Syrup, 105 gallons . . . . .	50 65
Lard, 3,092 pounds . . . . .	217 91
Eggs, 1,536 dozen . . . . .	283 57
Butter, 10,967 pounds . . . . .	1,952 93
Cheese, 1,550 pounds . . . . .	143 65
Milk, 69,994 quarts . . . . .	3,149 72
Coffee, 2,389 pounds . . . . .	512 09
Tea, 1,141 pounds . . . . .	442 14
<i>Amount carried forward . . . . .</i>	<i>\$16,351 25</i>

*Amount carried forward . . . . .*

<i>Amount brought forward . . . . .</i>	\$16,351 25
Chicory, 140 pounds . . . . .	13 35
Ice, 169,284 pounds . . . . .	253 94
Fruit . . . . .	266 45
Dried fruit . . . . .	40 94
Raisins, 26 boxes . . . . .	48 90
Bi-carb. soda, 289 pounds . . . . .	14 45
Cream of tartar, 281 pounds . . . . .	83 08
Tobacco, 268 pounds . . . . .	126 88
Groceries (miscellaneous) . . . . .	133 23
Medicines . . . . .	242 47
Disinfectant . . . . .	35 36
Soap (hard and soft) . . . . .	468 07
Starch, 376 pounds . . . . .	22 80
Hay, 7,346 pounds . . . . .	61 25
Straw, 37,437 pounds . . . . .	242 56
Provender . . . . .	113 75
Dry-goods (including women's clothing and furnishings) . . . . .	937 95
Clothing (including men's clothing and furnishings) . . . . .	1,243 90
Boots, shoes, and slippers . . . . .	408 63
Blankets and spreads . . . . .	415 12
Crockery and glass . . . . .	304 71
Furniture . . . . .	396 17
House furnishings . . . . .	325 36
Stationery . . . . .	167 51
Seeds and plants . . . . .	84 16
Gas, 529,900 cubic feet . . . . .	1,510 25
Coal; 808½ tons (gross) . . . . .	4,124 89
Charcoal . . . . .	58 75
Undertakers' charges . . . . .	229 00
Postage . . . . .	52 25
Transportation . . . . .	177 15
Travelling . . . . .	49 80
Oil (machinery and lights) . . . . .	62 70
Labor (ordinary) . . . . .	73 73
Repairs (materials and labor) . . . . .	3,935 69
Water (from Worcester City Water-Works) . . . . .	424 24
Current expenses . . . . .	1,665 65
<i>Net supplies issued to Sept. 30, 1879,</i>	<i>\$35,166 34</i>
Supplies expended as above . . . . .	\$35,166 34
Pay-roll to Sept. 30, 1879 . . . . .	20,046 59
	55,212 93
Less sundry sales . . . . .	611 89
<i>Net expenditures . . . . .</i>	<i>\$54,601 04</i>
Dividing this expenditure (\$54,601.04) by the average daily number of patients (367.41) gives the cost of each patient for 52 weeks . . . . .	\$148 61
This amount divided by 52 weeks gives the weekly cost per patient . . . . .	\$2 86

It was not deemed advisable, at the opening of the Asylum, to make any reduction in the quality or quantity of the dietary from that found necessary in other hospitals for the insane.

In a household like ours, where the larger number are suffering from wasting diseases, and all are of a low degree of vitality, a generous diet is a necessity.

In the department of supplies, the utmost care has been exercised in the selection and purchase of articles of subsistence. Variety in diet has been secured, and economy encouraged, by holding each employé strictly accountable for all unnecessary waste.

It has not seemed judicious or safe to materially reduce the number of our attendants. A majority of the inmates are subject to periodical attacks of violence; many are uniformly turbulent; and the class of dangerous epileptics is well represented.

One attendant to thirteen patients is, in my opinion, the least number that can be employed with due regard for the safety and well-being of our inmates.

The pleasure manifested by so many of our people in the chapel service; in the regular weekly entertainments furnished during the winter by the officers and employés, and in the books sent them, reminds us that they are still susceptible of moral influences, and that we cannot justly neglect any means that can possibly make them more happy and contented in their enforced seclusion, whether it be personal attention, entertainments, exercise in the open air, employment in useful labor, or the beautifying the wards with birds and flowers.

The labor performed by the patients during the year has helped materially in reducing the cost of their support. With the aid of the attendants and patients alone, most of our mattresses have been taken apart, the hair thoroughly cleansed, picked over, and made up again; much of our furniture has been repaired and redressed; the necessary painting and glazing done; a portion of our garden trenched; gutters laid about the building; not to mention the material assistance rendered our carpenter and mason on the repairs now being made. For the present, and until we can bring our building up to the condition, as regards repairs, which is

absolutely requisite, the demand for laborers of every capacity will exceed the supply. Thereafter it may be feasible to put in operation some system whereby a certain class of our patients, now for the most part idle, may be taught some useful employment.

Our garden, in the same hands as last year, has continued to furnish us with an abundance of vegetables. The entire tract now in cultivation is none too large for the purpose for which it is employed, and should, I think, be set apart for the permanent use of the Asylum.

The repairs have been carried on slowly but steadily, being limited and somewhat delayed by the uncertainty as to the means at our command. During the year, new steam-heating apparatus has been introduced into the centre building; six of the wards re-painted; a portion of the fences in the rear of the Asylum rebuilt; a coal-shed erected to enable us to store a year's supply of coal; and in the lower ward of the male wing, all the plastering, and much of the standing finish, has been removed; the transoms and ventilators enlarged; direct heat introduced into several of the rooms; and a drying-shaft for mops and towels placed in the ward and dining-room. In compliance with a vote of the Trustees, material is now being purchased to repair, in like manner, the five remaining wards in the two wings.

In behalf of the patients of the Asylum, I wish to thank Dr. R. W. Hooper for the full sets of "St. Nicholas" for 1878 and 1879, presented by him; and the proprietors of the "Worcester Evening Gazette" for a copy of their paper during the year.

The good order which has prevailed in the Asylum during the year, and the prosperity which has marked all its affairs, could not have been secured save by the united efforts of its officers and employés. To each and to every one who has contributed to these results, I would express my sincere thanks.

H. M. QUINBY, *Superintendent.*

ASYLUM FOR THE CHRONIC INSANE, Oct. 1, 1879.

APR 25 '39 W.P.A.



